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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of light, illumine our way. O God of hope, strengthen our resolve. O God of truth, edify our souls, that we may live today for Your glory.

May our lawmakers bring honor to You by being faithful stewards of love, grace, compassion, and patience. Use them to meet the pressing needs of our Nation and world, providing them opportunities to be Your hands and heart in these challenging times. Let them never lack the courage or the will to do Your work. May their words, thoughts, and actions reflect the content of Your character.

And, Lord, while many travel during the August recess, bless and keep them, providing Your traveling mercies.

We particularly thank You for our outgoing page class.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHERROD BROWN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, August 3, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that prior to the vote on the judge that is scheduled, we have 1 minute of debate by the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Senator SPECTER, 1 minute for Senator INHOFE, and 1 minute for Dr. COBURN, the Senator from Oklahoma.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY D. DEGIUSTI, TO BE A UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will proceed to execu-

tive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Timothy D. DeGiusti, of Oklahoma, to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I yield my time to the Senators from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, this morning, as I do every morning, I was taking my aggressive walk around the Capitol. I walked in front of the U.S. Supreme Court, and I looked up at the eight pillars facing west, and I said audibly, "Help is on its way," in the form of a young jurist from Oklahoma named Tim DeGiusti.

I pause for a moment to thank, certainly, Senator SPECTER for his help. I single out Senator LEAHY, who gave me his word a long time ago that this would happen before the August recess. I say the same thing about the majority leader, Senator REID. I thank him for his assistance.

I know my junior Senator would like to say a couple of words and will talk about the qualifications of this man. He has highest ratings in everything. He has strong support from Democrats—our Democratic Governor, and my predecessor here, David Boren, a Democrat.

On a personal note, 41 years ago, I was elected to the State house of representatives with a very bright guy named Ralph Thompson. He ended up being one of the most renowned Federal district judges in the history of Oklahoma. He and his family are watching us right now from a reunion in Ohio. I only suggest, through the Chair, that Ralph Thompson and his wife Barbara had three beautiful little girls. His daughter Elaine married Tim DeGiusti. So there is a connection there. You have a great jurist in Ralph

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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